

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends the continuation application of United States Patent Application 09/898,756 filed herewith. By the present Amendment, numerous scrivener's errors in the specification are corrected, claims 1 - 71 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter therein, and new claims 72 and 73 are presented. Accordingly, claims 72 and 73 are in the Application. Entry of the amendments and timely examination of the Application are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the specification correct obvious scrivener's errors. The amendments are the same as those presented and entered in parent application 09/898,756. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter into the Application.

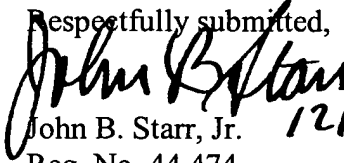
The Claim Amendments

New claim 72 is drawn to a method of making sodium alendronate dihydrate. Applicants respectfully submit that support for the amendments can be found in the specification at, for example, example 5.

New claim 73 is drawn to a method of making alendronate sodium monohydrate. Applicants respectfully submit that support for the new claim can be found in the specification at, for example, example 6.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of the Application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Starr, Jr. 12/30/03
Reg. No. 44,474

Kenyon & Kenyon
One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
tel: 212-425-7200
fax: 212-425-5288